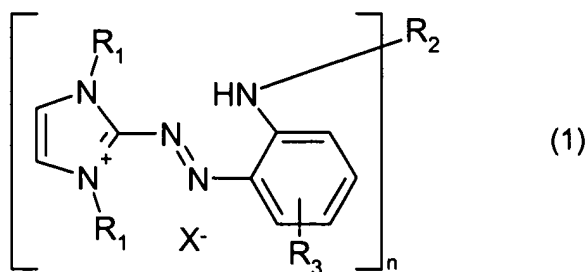


1. (currently amended): Cationic dye of formula (1)



wherein

R₁ is an unsubstituted or substituted C₁-C₁₄alkyl or an aryl radical;

X⁻ is an anion;

R₃ is an unsubstituted or substituted C₁-C₁₄alkyl, aryl radical, C₁-C₆alkoxy, ~~cyanid~~ cyanide, nitro or halide;

n is 1 or 2; and

if n is 1, then R₂ is hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted C₁-C₁₄alkyl; or

if n is 2, then R₂ is an unsubstituted or substituted ~~C₄-C₁₄alkylene~~ C₁-C₁₄alkylene.

2. (original): Cationic dye according to claim 1, wherein

R₁ is methyl.

3. (currently amended): Cationic dye according to ~~any of claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, wherein

R₁ is methyl,

n is 2, and

R₂ is a substituted or unsubstituted ~~C₄-C₈alkylene~~ C₁-C₈alkylene.

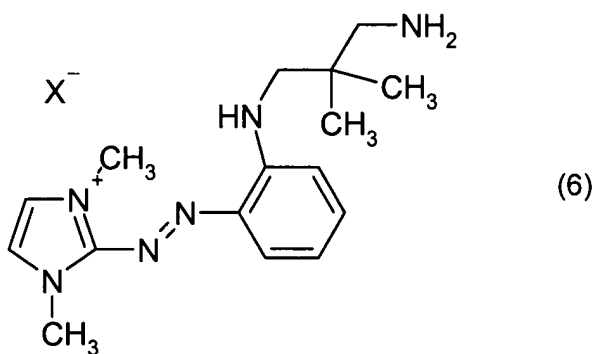
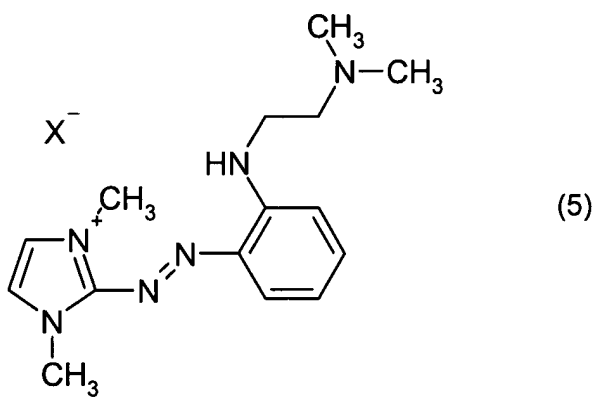
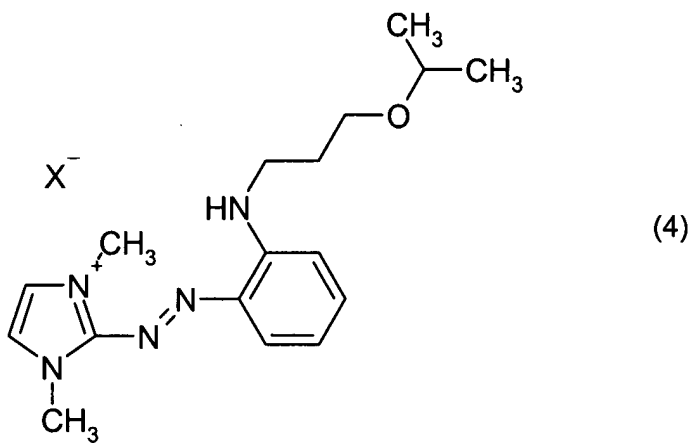
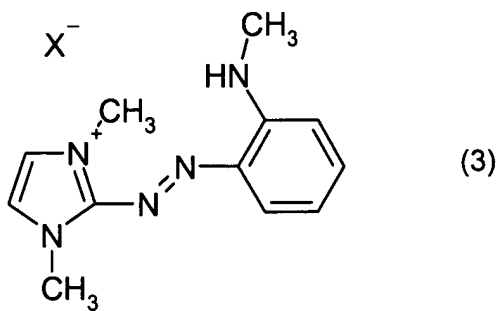
4. (currently amended): Cationic dye according to ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein ~~wherein~~

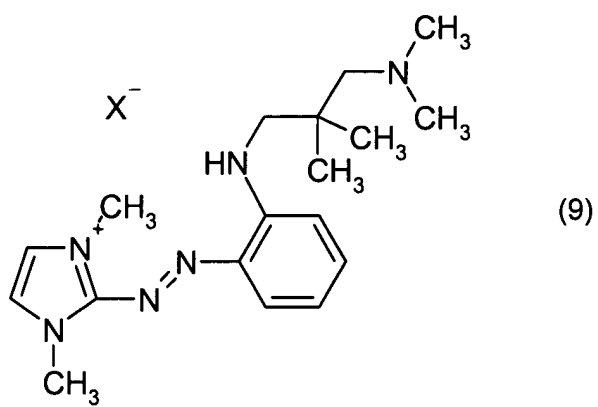
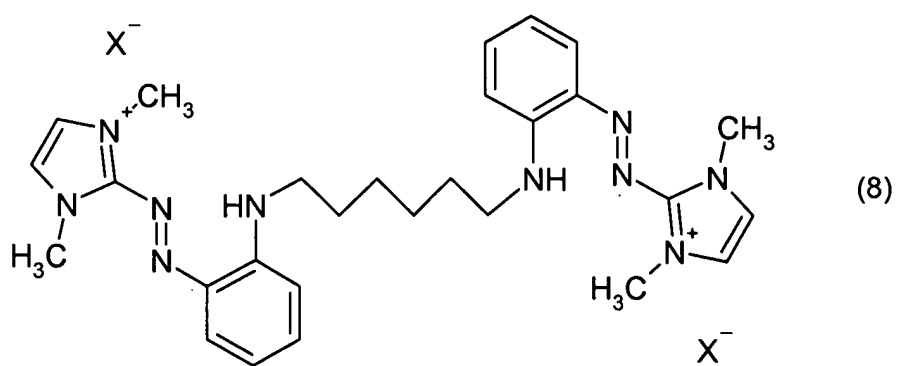
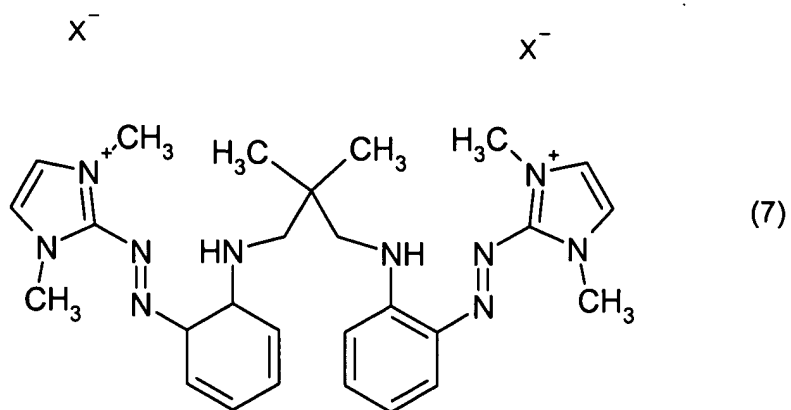
R₁ is methyl,

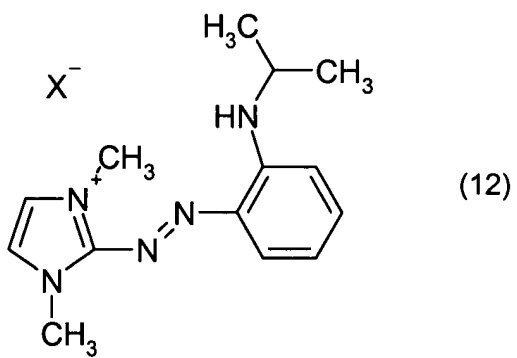
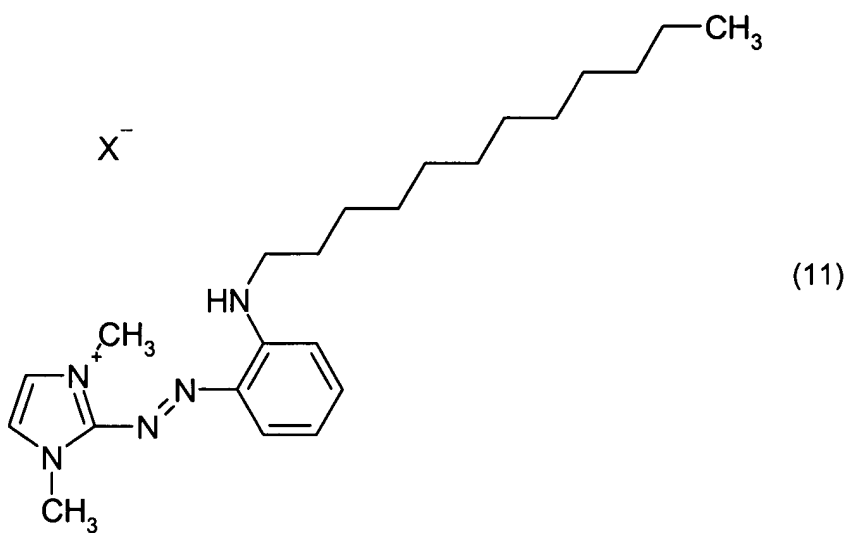
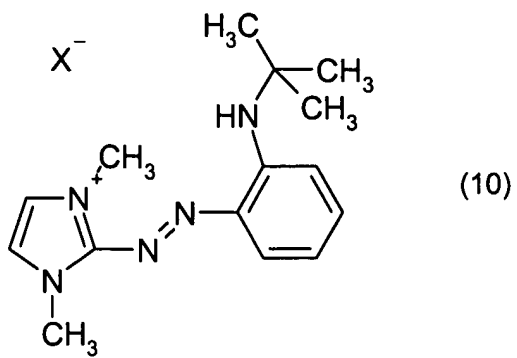
n is 1, and

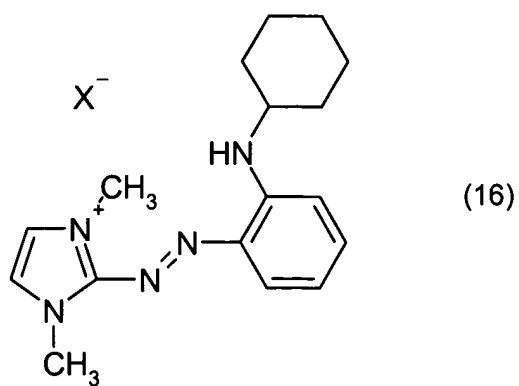
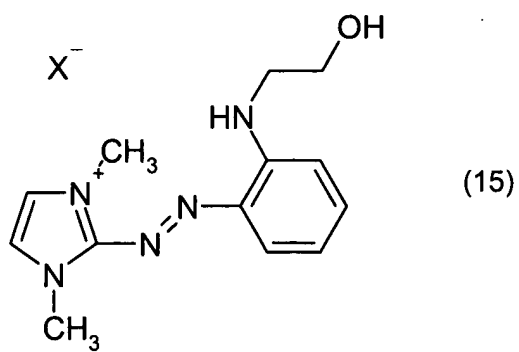
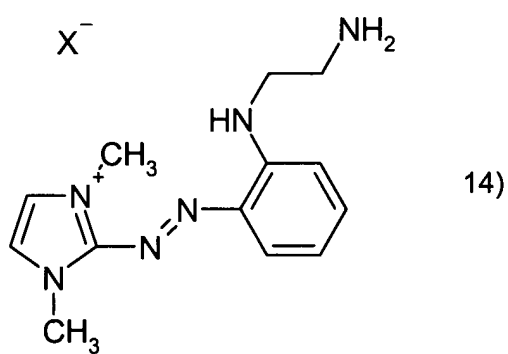
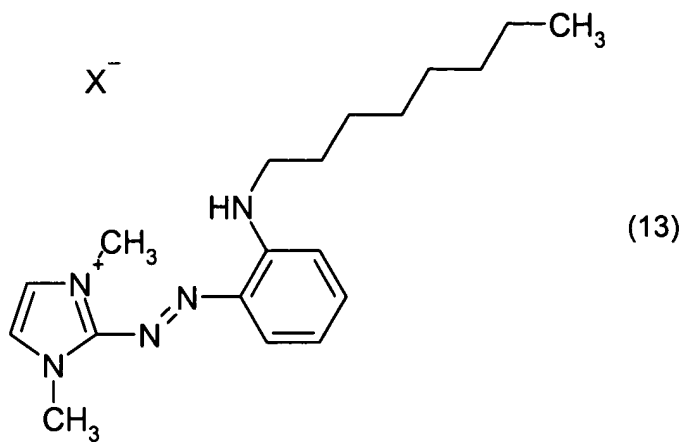
R₂ is a substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₁₂alkyl.

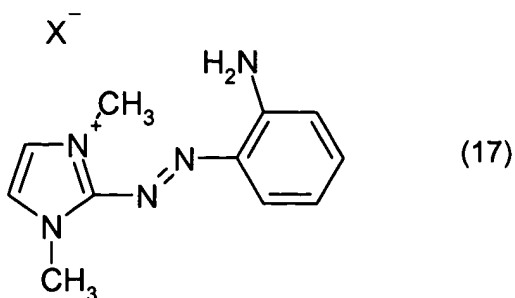
5. (currently amended): Cationic dye according to ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, of formulae (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), (12), (13), (14), (15), (16) or (17)







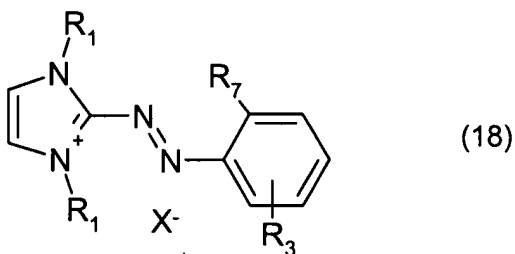




wherein

X^- is an anion.

6. (currently amended): Cationic dye of formula (18)



wherein

R_7 is C_1 - C_6 alkoxy or halide, and

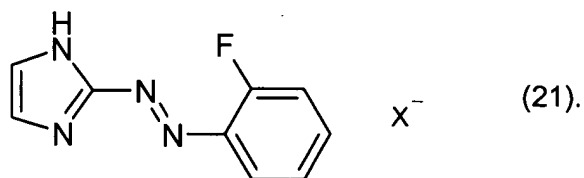
X^- is an anion,

R_3 is an unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_{14} alkyl, aryl radical, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, ~~cyanid~~ cyanide, nitro or halide, and

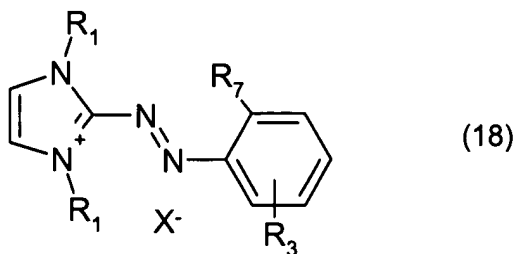
R_1 is an unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_{14} alkyl or an aryl radical;

or

~~a~~ the compound of formula (21)



7. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of cationic dyes of formula (1) as defined ~~above~~ in claim 1, comprising
bringing a compound of formula (18)



wherein

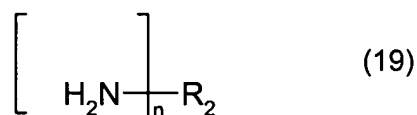
R₇ is C₁-C₆alkoxy or halide,

R₁ is an unsubstituted or substituted C₁-C₁₄alkyl or an aryl radical;

X⁻ is an anion;

R₃ is an unsubstituted or substituted C₁-C₁₄alkyl, aryl radical, C₁-C₆alkoxy, ~~cyanide~~ cyanide, nitro or halide;

into contact with an amine of formula (19)



wherein

n is 1 or 2; and

if n is 1, then R₂ is hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted C₁-C₁₄alkyl; or

if n is 2, then R₂ is an unsubstituted or substituted C₁-C₁₄alkylene, ~~C₁-C₁₄alkylene~~;

~~into contact.~~

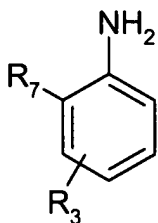
8. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of compound of formula (21) as defined ~~above~~ in claim 6, comprising

a) diazotizing ~~2-fluoroaniline~~ 2-fluoroaniline and

b) then coupling with imidazole.

9. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of cationic dyes of formula (18) as defined ~~above~~ in claim 6, comprising

a) diazotiation of an amine of formula



wherein

R₇ is C₁-C₆alkoxy or halide,

R₁ is an unsubstituted or substituted C₁-C₁₄alkyl or an aryl radical;

R₃ is an unsubstituted or substituted C₁-C₁₄alkyl, aryl radical, C₁-C₆alkoxy, ~~cyanid~~ cyanide, nitro or halide; and

- a) coupling the diazotiated compound with imidazole, and
- b) ~~then-alkylation or arylation~~ alkylating or arylating.

10. (cancelled).

11. (currently amended): A composition comprising at least a single dye of formula (1) as defined ~~above in claim 1 and an adjuvant, or a compound as defined in claim 6, or prepared in accordance with a process according to claims 7 to 10.~~

12. (original): A composition according to claim 11 comprising in addition at least a single further direct dye and/or an oxidative agent.

13. (original): A composition according to claim 11 comprising in addition at least a single oxidative dye and/or; at least a single oxidative dye and an oxidative agent.

14. (currently amended): A composition according to ~~any one of claims 11 to 13~~ claim 11, in the form of a shampoo, conditioner, gel or emulsion.

15. (currently amended): A method of dyeing organic material, ~~especially human hair~~, that comprises bringing into contact with the organic material at least a single dye of formula (1) according to claim 1 ~~claims 1 to 5, or a compound as defined in claim 6, or a composition according to claims 10 to 13, or a dye as prepared according to claims 7 to 10,~~ and, optionally, a further dye.

16. (currently amended): A method according to claim 15, which comprises for dyeing or tinting human hair.

17. (currently amended): A method for dyeing human hair or strands ~~according to claims 15 or 16,~~ that comprises contacting the hair with at least a single ~~a~~ dye of formula (1) as defined in claim 1, ~~or a compound as defined in claim 6,~~ and an oxidative agent and, optionally, a further direct dye.

18. (currently amended): A method for dyeing human hair ~~according to any of claims 16 to 17,~~ that comprises contacting the hair with at least a single ~~a~~ cationic dye of formula (1) as defined in claim 1, ~~or a compound as defined in claim 6,~~ and at least a single oxidative dye; or contacting the hair with a cationic dye of formula (1) as defined in claim 1, ~~or a compound as defined in claim 6,~~ and at least a single oxidative dye and an oxidative agent.

19. (new): A method for dyeing human hair, that comprises contacting the hair with a compound as defined in claim 6, and at least a single oxidative dye; or contacting the hair with a compound as defined in claim 6, and at least a single oxidative dye and an oxidative agent.